

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fifth Bristol Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Fifth Bristol Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 1.3% (1,570) reside in the Fifth Bristol Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (298) of Fifth Bristol Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 76.4% of admissions from the Fifth Bristol Representative District were male and 23.6% were female.
- Over 64.7% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 87.8% of admissions were white non-Latino, 4.0% were black non-Latino, 5.7% were Latino, 0.1% were Asians, and 2.4% were other racial categories.
- 57.8% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 19.6% were married, and 16.8% reported not to be married now.
- 30.3% of admissions had less than high school education, 51.7% completed high school, and 18.0% had more than high school education.
- 39.0% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 5.4% of those admitted were homeless.
- 9.1% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

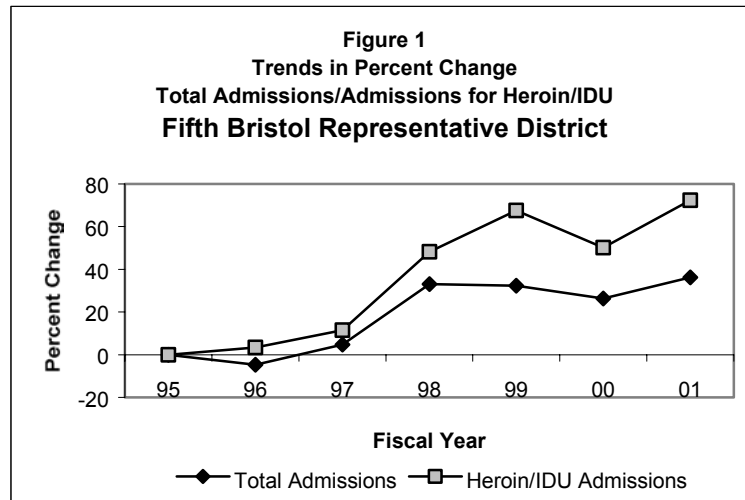
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Fifth Bristol Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Fifth Bristol Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	1,152	924	376	343	122	405	271
FY '96	1,097	885	385	328	153	399	300
FY '97	1,206	948	388	299	161	419	335
FY '98	1,533	1,139	477	355	134	598	404
FY '99	1,524	1,059	524	412	166	675	458
FY '00	1,455	1,023	500	409	158	602	413
FY '01	1,570	1,103	476	397	137	679	486

- Since FY 1996, residents of Fifth Bristol Representative District reported a steady increase in alcohol and heroin use. Alcohol use increased by 24% and heroin use by 70%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting marijuana use increased by 26%, cocaine by 15%, and crack use by 12%.

Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Fifth Bristol Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV¹.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 36% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 72%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fifth Bristol Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	48.2%	38.9%	4.3%	3.8%	1.7%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While cocaine as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, alcohol and heroin as a primary drug was higher, and, marijuana and crack was lower within your District.

¹ The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000

